

PATENT
2499-1-001N**REMARKS**

Claims 1-34 are pending. Claims 1-7 are presently cancelled. Claim 29 is currently amended to clarify aspects of the claim and alter dependency recited therein. New claims 35-45 are submitted herein. Accordingly, claims 8-28, amended claim 29, claims 30-34, and new claims 35-45 are under consideration.

Support for the amendment to claim 29 is found in the specification and original claims. Specifically, support for claim 29, as amended, is found in original claim 29. No issue of new matter is introduced by this amendment.

Support for new claims 35-45 is presented throughout the specification and in the originally presented claims. Specifically, support for new claims 35-38 is found in original claim 1; at page 22, lines 5-12, wherein the range of percent identities recited in these claims is set forth; and at page 6, lines 25-28 and at page 15, lines 15-20, wherein characteristics of a polypeptide comprising amino acid residues 216-395 of SEQ ID NO: 2 are described, including the ability to catalyze decarboxylation. Support for new claim 39 is presented in original claim 1. Support for new claim 40 is available, for example, at pages 12-13, wherein SEQ ID NO: 1 and SEQ ID NO: 2 are presented; at page 19, line 25 to page 20, line 12, wherein the term "hybridizable" is described and wherein moderate stringency hybridization conditions are set forth; and at page 26, lines 17-24, wherein the degeneracy of nucleotide coding sequences is conveyed. Support for new claim 41 is found at page 4, line 33 to page 5, line 1, wherein the capability of a polypeptide of the present invention to bind to GNK and/or sGNK is described. Support for new claims 42 and 43 is presented at page 6, lines 1-7, wherein a modified polypeptide of the invention is described in which the caspase-3 recognition motif has been modified so as to produce a polypeptide which is not cleavable by caspase-3 and wherein alterations/substitutions of one or more amino acid residues in the caspase-3 recognition motif are described. Support for new claim 44 is found at page 37, lines 19-21, wherein the ability of an antibody to bind specifically to a GID polypeptide via antigen-binding sites of the antibody, as opposed to non-specific binding, is described. Support for new claim 45 is found in original claims 5 and 7; and at page 15, lines 23-34, wherein decarboxylase activity is included in a list of activities of the polypeptides of the invention and wherein the term fusion protein is described.

Fees

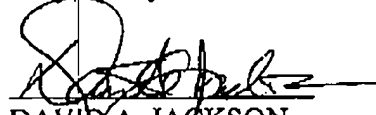
No fee is believed to be necessitated by the foregoing amendments. However, should this be erroneous, authorization is hereby given to charge Deposit Account No. 11-1153 for any underpayment, or credit any overages.

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Conclusions

Applicants respectfully request entry of the foregoing amendment into the file history of the above-identified Application being filed herewith. Early and favorable action on the pending set of Claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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